

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following "Listing of Claims" replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. **(previously presented)**. A method for measuring a concentration of a material in a solution, the method comprising the steps of:

- i measuring an optical rotation of a solution sample;
- ii treating the solution sample with a reactive agent that is reactive with the material and is sufficient to alter the optical rotation of the sample;
- iii measuring the optical rotation of the sample after the treatment with the reactive agent; and
- iv calculating the concentration of the material by reference to a suitable standard.

2. **(previously presented)**. The method according to claim 1, wherein the concentration of the material is measured in a sugar solution.

3. **(previously presented)**. The method according to claim 1, wherein the material is optically active.

4. **(previously presented)**. The method according to claim 3, wherein the material is dextran or raffinose.

5. **(previously presented)**. The method according to claim 4, wherein the material is dextran and the reactive agent is dextranase.

6. **(previously presented)**. The method according to claim 1, further comprising a step of treating the sample with a second reactive agent.

7. (previously presented). The method according to claim 1, wherein the reactive agent is provided in a context of a solid support.

8. (previously presented). The method according to claim 1, wherein the sample is purified with diatomaceous earth having a median particle size of less than 19.3 microns prior to polarimetric analysis.

9 (currently amended). A method according to claim 1, wherein the reactive agent is dextranase or α -galactosidase in the context of a solid support. Dextranase or α -galactosidase that is attached to a solid support and is suitable for use as the reactive agent in the method of claim 1.

10. (currently amended). A kit for the assay of the concentration of a material in solution according to claim 1, the kit comprising at least an agent reactive with the optically active material and software for use with a polarimeter to automate the change in optical rotation of a standard with concentration of the material of interest. A kit for determining a concentration of a material in a solution according to the method of claim 1, the kit comprising an agent reactive with the material.

11. (previously presented). A method for a polarimetric analysis of a solution sample at near IR wavelengths, the method comprising the steps of:

- i treating the solution sample with diatomaceous earth having a median particle size of less than 19.3 microns;
- ii measuring an optical rotation of the solution sample;
- iii treating the solution sample with a reactive agent that is reactive with the material and is sufficient to alter the optical rotation of the sample;
- iv measuring the optical rotation of the sample after the treatment with the reactive agent; and
- v calculating the concentration of the material by reference to a suitable standard.

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12. **(previously presented).** The method according to claim 11, wherein the diatomaceous earth is Filter Cel E grade Celite or a functional equivalent.

13. **(currently amended).** The kit of claim 10, wherein the material is optically active and wherein the agent reactive with the material is dextranase or α -galactosidase .

14. **(currently amended).** The kit of claim 13, wherein the material is dextran and the agent reactive with the material is dextranase.